

faith statement

GOD

We believe in one God, creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing as a trinity of three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (John 1:1-5; John 14:9-11; 16-20).

JESUS CHRIST

We believe in Jesus Christ, who is our one and only Saviour.

Who was born both fully human and fully divine, conceived of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and lived a sinless life.

Who suffered and was crucified.

Who died and was buried, and rose again bodily from the dead three days after he was executed.

Who ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of the Father.

Who will return to earth to judge both the living and the dead.

HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is a personal and active part of the triune God.

We believe He speaks through Scripture, that He convicts the world of sin and testifies about Jesus, that He blesses the church with gifts, and that He indwells the hearts of Christians, working sanctification within them.

BIBLE

We believe in the 66 books of the Bible – God’s Holy Word. We believe God inspired the original writings of the Scripture, and therefore the Bible is completely trustworthy in all its parts.

We accept the Bible as the uniquely supreme, reliable, and final authority on all matters of Christian faith and practice.

SALVATION

We believe that all people willfully sin against God and are consequently lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ.

We believe that salvation cannot be earned, but is given to us only through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and by God’s grace (Ephesians 2:8-10).

We believe we must respond to God by:

Admitting our need for God’s grace.

Turning away from sin (repenting).

Committing oneself to the path of being a Christ-follower (disciple) by trusting Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

And being baptized (immersed) into Christ.

We believe that salvation means the saving of the whole person (including forgiveness of sins, reconciliation, future hope in Paradise, the immediate membership into the Kingdom of God and on-going transformation into the likeness of Jesus Christ.) Essentially, he is about making things right in the world.

CHURCH

We believe there is one church universal, comprised of all those who have been added by God as his saved children. The universal church finds expression in local bodies of Christians that regularly meet for mutual encouragement and worship.

We believe in the church’s mission: making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all of Jesus’ commands.

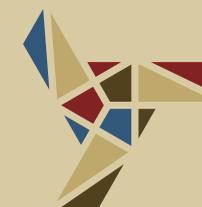
We believe the church is a present reality of the Kingdom of God and a demonstration of what God is doing here on earth.

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Becoming a member here at Bow Valley does not imply that all the elements are totally “in place” in your life, but it is a statement that you are in agreement with their importance and are moving towards the integration of them in your life.

We’re glad that you are considering becoming a member along with us. You matter and make this community better.

Membership Covenant

2018



bow valley
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

big picture

WHY WE EXIST — OUR PURPOSE

We are ambassadors of God's Kingdom, empowered by His Spirit to bring transformation to the world around us.

HOW WE BEHAVE — OUR VALUES

With a servant heart! We're sensitive to the needs of others, both inside and outside the church, and act with humility, generosity, and grace.

With unity! We love the diversity of God's family and appreciate the unique contributions of different ages, ethnicities, and experiences. With the presence of God's Spirit amongst us we're better together in all facets of our lives.

With obedience! We acknowledge the supremacy of God's word and attempt to submit to it as a guide for our personal and corporate lifestyles, relationships, and ministries.

WHAT DO WE DO — OUR COMMITMENT

We strive to develop more and better followers of Jesus.

HOW WILL WE SUCCEED? — OUR STRATEGIES

Our focus and activities are anchored to:

Community building: strengthening relationships with one another.

Outreach and Service: being both salt and light in our community.

Spiritual growth: helping each other become more like Jesus.

covenant agreement

The BVCC Membership Covenant is birthed out of our love for this local church body and a desire to remain faithful to the mission of the church universal. The primary purpose of this covenant is:

To clarify the biblical obligations and expectations for both the Elders and the individual members of the BVCC body.

To demonstrate solidarity to the mission, values and beliefs of BVCC.

To serve as a tool for reflection and growth toward holiness.

To create a current record of membership for voting situations.

Although we are aware that the New Testament scriptures do not outline specific directives for church membership, our Elders believe that an active commitment to a local church is vital for the spiritual health of both individuals and the congregation as a whole. As well, the Alberta Societies Act requires that we maintain an up-to-date list of our members. Entering your contact information and signature indicates your willingness to become a member at Bow Valley Christian Church (BVCC) or to renew your membership covenant. By signing this document, your vote will be counted in congregational votes, and you will meet one of the prerequisites to serve in leadership capacities within BVCC.

With these things in mind, we invite you who are considering membership to carefully read through the following expectations, mission and beliefs, before you indicate your acceptance by signing. If you would like to visit with an Elder or staff member about this covenant, please call the church office (403.286.5300) to make an appointment. All of our members are asked to renew their covenant by signing again each year.

We believe that there are five key elements, which ought to characterize our life together as the church. These elements are vital for our spiritual growth individually, as well as the overall health of the body itself and the honouring of our Lord, Jesus Christ. They are:

1. *Our primary covenant with God:* I believe that Jesus is the Son of God and have confessed him publicly as Lord. In obedience to his example and command, I have chosen to be baptized by immersion to identify with his death, burial, and resurrection.

2. *Accountability through relationship:* I'm prepared to be accountable and submit to Jesus as the Head of the Body and as our Lord and Master. I am also willing to be accountable and submit to the leadership of our congregation, including Elders and Pastors who are responsible for the teaching and pastoral care of our congregation and overall direction of our ministry. In turn, I will prayerfully hold them accountable to these same biblical standards and values.
3. *Taking initiative for spiritual growth:* I will intentionally pursue spiritual growth in my own life in order to honour Christ and strengthen the rest of the body. This includes utilizing my natural abilities, spiritual giftedness, and unique personality and experiences in ministry to one another and in mission beyond our fellowship.
4. *Putting my treasure in the Kingdom of God:* "Where your treasure is, there your heart is also." Thus, I will strive to be a contributing member of the BVCC community through the use of my spiritual gifts, talents and skills and, the sharing of my financial resources in the life of my local church community. I choose to do this willingly, generously, regularly, proportionately and expectantly. A helpful principle of giving involves tithing 10% of our income as taught in the Old Testament and affirmed by Jesus (Matthew 23:23) as a great starting place.
5. *Regular participation in the life of our community:* I will make involvement within the community a priority. This may include our corporate worship, missional groups, and our local neighbourhood. Participation in a weekly large group celebration allows us to centre our attention on God, responding to Him for His work in our lives and reflecting on our personal walk with Him. It also serves as a practical witness to our oneness in Christ and fuels our energies for His mission. Our missional groups include small groups, nurture groups, task groups, support groups and study groups.

Membership Covenant 2018

We recognize that these commitments are not requirements for being a Christian, but rather what it looks like to truly partner with Bow Valley Christian Church. The motive of these commitments is to shape and encourage Godly character in our people. To become a member or to renew your 2018 Bow Valley Membership Covenant, please fill in the following information, sign, and put in the mailbox at the information kiosk. (If married, one form can be used for both husband and wife). By signing this document, you are affirming your participation in the covenant agreement, support the faith statement and aligning yourself with the big picture outlined in the Bow Valley Christian Church Membership Covenant.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____

SIGNATURE _____

CHURCH LOCATION TO WHICH I AM CONNECTED Varsity Mahogany Skyview Ranch

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